

Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-captioned application.

1. (Original) A water amusement system, comprising:
 - a first water amusement ride;
 - a second water amusement ride; and
 - an elevation system configured to convey at least one flexible inflated vehicle from an exit point of the first water amusement ride to an entry point of the second water amusement ride, wherein the exit point of the first ride and the entry point of the second ride are at different elevation levels.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the water ride comprises at least one water releasing mechanism configured to inject water onto a surface of the water ride such that a body of flowing water is produced on the surface of the water ride.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the elevation system comprises a spiral transport device.
4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the elevation system comprises a water wheel.
5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein an exit point of the second water amusement ride and an entry point of the first water amusement ride are coupled.
6. (Original) The system of claim 5, further comprising a second elevation system configured to convey at least one flexible inflated vehicle from the exit point of the second water amusement ride to the entry point of the first water amusement ride

7. (Original) The system of claim 5, further comprising a third water amusement ride, wherein an exit point of the third ride is coupled to the exit of the second water ride, and wherein an entry point of the third ride is coupled to the entry point of the first ride.
8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the exit point of the third ride is coupled to the exit of the second water ride with a body of water, and wherein an entry point of the third ride is coupled to the entry point of the first ride with a body of water.
9. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a floating queue line coupled to an entry point of at least one of the water amusement rides.
10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the floating queue line comprises a queue line channel wherein the queue line channel is configured to hold water at a depth sufficient to allow a flexible inflated vehicle to float within the queue line channel during use, and wherein the floating queue line is coupled to the water ride such that a flexible inflated vehicle remains in the water while being transferred from the channel along the floating queue line to the water ride.
11. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the elevation system comprises a water slide.
12. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the elevation system comprises an uphill water slide.
13. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the elevation system comprises a water lock system comprising:
a chamber for holding water, the chamber being coupled to the exit point of the first water ride and the entry point of the second water ride;

a first movable member formed in a wall of the chamber, the first movable member being positioned to allow the flexible inflated vehicle and water to move between the exit point of the first water ride and the chamber when the first movable member is open during use; and

a second movable member formed in the wall of the chamber, the second movable member being positioned to allow the flexible inflated vehicle and water to move between the entry point of the second water ride and the chamber when the second movable member is open during use.

14. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the elevation system comprises a water lock system comprising:

a chamber for holding water, the chamber being coupled to the exit point of the first water ride and the entry point of the second water ride;

a first movable member formed in a wall of the chamber, the first movable member being positioned to allow the flexible inflated vehicle and water to move between the exit point of the first water ride and the chamber when the first movable member is open during use;

a second movable member formed in the wall of the chamber, the second movable member being positioned to allow the flexible inflated vehicle and water to move between the entry point of the second water ride and the chamber when the second movable member is open during use; and

a bottom member positioned within the chamber, wherein the bottom member is positionable below the upper surface of water within the chamber during use.

15. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the elevation system comprises a conveyor belt system.

16. (Original) A water amusement system, comprising:

a first water amusement ride;

a second water amusement ride; and

an elevation system configured to convey a flexible inflated vehicle from an exit point of the first water amusement ride to an entry point of the second water amusement ride, wherein the exit point of the first ride and the entry point of the second ride are at different elevation levels;

wherein the exit point of the second water amusement ride and the entry point of the first water amusement ride are coupled.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the water ride comprises at least one water releasing mechanism configured to inject water onto a surface of the water ride such that a body of flowing water is produced on the surface of the water ride.

18. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the elevation system comprises a spiral transport device.

19. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the elevation system comprises a water wheel.

20. (Original) The system of claim 16, further comprising a second elevation system configured to convey at least one flexible inflated vehicle from the exit point of the second water amusement ride to the entry point of the first water amusement ride

21. (Original) The system of claim 16, further comprising a third water amusement ride, wherein an exit point of the third ride is coupled to the exit of the second water ride, and wherein an entry point of the third ride is coupled to the entry point of the first ride.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the exit point of the third ride is coupled to the exit of the second water ride with a body of water, and wherein an entry point of the third ride is coupled to the entry point of the first ride with a body of water.
23. (Original) The system of claim 16, further comprising a floating queue line coupled to an entry point of at least one of the water amusement rides.
24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the floating queue line comprises a queue line channel wherein the queue line channel is configured to hold water at a depth sufficient to allow a flexible inflated vehicle to float within the queue line channel during use, and wherein the floating queue line is coupled to the water ride such that a flexible inflated vehicle remains in the water while being transferred from the channel along the floating queue line to the water ride.
25. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the elevation system comprises a water slide.
26. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the elevation system comprises an uphill water slide.
27. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the elevation system comprises a water lock system comprising:

a chamber for holding water, the chamber being coupled to the exit point of the first water ride and the entry point of the second water ride;

a first movable member formed in a wall of the chamber, the first movable member being positioned to allow the flexible inflated vehicle and water to move between the exit point of the first water ride and the chamber when the first movable member is open during use; and

a second movable member formed in the wall of the chamber, the second movable member being positioned to allow the flexible inflated vehicle and water to move between the entry point of the second water ride and the chamber when the second movable member is open during use.

28. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the elevation system comprises a water lock system comprising:

a chamber for holding water, the chamber being coupled to the exit point of the first water ride and the entry point of the second water ride;

a first movable member formed in a wall of the chamber, the first movable member being positioned to allow the flexible inflated vehicle and water to move between the exit point of the first water ride and the chamber when the first movable member is open during use;

a second movable member formed in the wall of the chamber, the second movable member being positioned to allow the flexible inflated vehicle and water to move between the entry point of the second water ride and the chamber when the second movable member is open during use; and

a bottom member positioned within the chamber, wherein the bottom member is positionable below the upper surface of water within the chamber during use.

29. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the elevation system comprises a conveyor belt system.

30. (Original) A method of transporting participants in a water amusement system, comprising:

conveying one or more flexible inflated vehicles from an exit point of a first water

amusement ride to an entry point of a second water amusement ride disposed at a different elevational level using an elevation system.

Claims 31-224 (cancelled)